



Ourada's Great Basin Type 2 Incident Management Team

Contact: Fire Information (435) 527-3727

Twitchell Canyon Fire Update

September 20, 2010

RED FLAG WARNING

With gusts of up to 54 miles per hour recorded over the fire area, the Twitchell Canyon Fire made another significant run yesterday and the acreage is now up to 30,000. Such conditions make it very difficult for firefighters to limit fire spread; however, the exceptional work of the fire crews prevented the fire from crossing I-70. Multiple spot fires were quickly extinguished. The diligence of Utah Department of Transportation and Utah Highway Patrol in closing I-70 was imperative to the safety of the crews as well as the public.

Extreme fire behavior was observed yesterday, including sustained running fire through the tree canopies. For the fourth consecutive day, a Red Flag Warning – a weather descriptor used to indicate the high probability for extreme burning conditions – has been issued for the fire area by the National Weather Service. Today winds are predicted to start off strong and decrease through the afternoon. Temperatures will be slightly cooler today and tomorrow.

Fourteen handcrews, six helicopters, two dozers, and sixteen fire engines are still assigned to the fire, bringing the total personnel to 485. Additional engines have been ordered. The current management team will transition with another team tomorrow morning.

I-70 has been reopened. The most current information can be obtained by dialing 511 within the state of Utah or 866-511-UTAH (8824) outside the state. Castle Rock Campground remains under evacuation. Additional roads have been closed to provide for public and firefighter safety:

- Forest Road 119 Indian Creek Road at Pole Creek Junction (Forest Road 589).
- Forest Road 114 Shingle Creek Road intersection with the Paiute Trail Mud Flat Road (Forest Road 583).
- Forest Road 113 Mill Creek Road (Kimberly) at Mud Springs (junction of Forest Road 116 Sevier Canyon Road).
- Forest Road 591 North Fork North Creek at the intersection with Tanner Hollow Road (Forest Road 654).
- Forest Road 589 Drag Hollow Road where it intersects with Hell Canyon Road (Forest Road 520).
- **Forest Road 123 at the Poison Creek gate (just north of Big John's Flat).**
- Forest Road 113 Beaver Creek Road at the Forest Boundary west of Marysvale.
- Forest Road 475 Max Reid/Dry Creek Road at the Fremont Indian State Park.
- Forest Road 476 Dry Wash from Old Hwy 4 – Clear Creek Road.
- Forest Road 474 Deer Creek Road from the eastern boundary at the Hwy 89 rest area.

For more information, maps, and pictures on this and other fires, please visit www.utahfireinfo.gov or www.inciweb.org.

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